

United States Embassy, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Message for U.S. Citizens
Travel Alert for Bangladesh

Feb 25, 2016

The Department of State alerts U.S. citizens to the ongoing potential for extremist violence in Bangladesh. This Travel Alert supersedes the November 10, 2015 alert and expires on May 1, 2016.

Reports suggest that terrorist attacks could occur against foreigners in Bangladesh, especially in large gatherings. Since September 2015, Bangladesh has experienced a series of increasingly sophisticated violent attacks. These include the murders of two foreign nationals, as well as bombs and other attacks against gatherings of religious groups and security forces. The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) publicly claimed credit for many of these attacks. Additionally, groups saying they represent Al Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) claimed responsibility for a series of threats and terrorist attacks targeting writers, publishers, and others in the media, including the murder of a U.S. citizen blogger. The U.S. government assesses that the terrorist threat remains real and credible, and further attacks are possible.

The Government of Bangladesh has taken steps to pursue extremists and strengthen security, and thousands of U.S. citizens visit each year without incident. Nevertheless, U.S. citizens should take precautions, remain vigilant, and be alert to local security developments. Although U.S. government officials in Bangladesh continue to conduct official business without incident, U.S. government officials and their families currently are not permitted to:

- visit many public places;
- travel on foot, motorcycle, bicycle, rickshaw, or other uncovered means on public thoroughfares and sidewalks;
- attend large gatherings in Bangladesh, including events at international hotels.

The Embassy encourages U.S. citizens to adopt similar security measures.

For further information:

- See the [State Department's travel website](#) for the [Worldwide Caution](#), Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and [Country Specific Information](#).
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the [U.S. Embassy in Dhaka](#), Bangladesh, located at Madani Avenue, Baridhara, Dhaka, Bangladesh 1212, at (88) (02) 5566-2000, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. Weekends and After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is (88) (02) 5566-2000 and press "0" and ask for the duty officer.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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American Citizens Services
U.S. Embassy
Dhaka, Bangladesh